

**From:** Doug Darling [mailto:ddarling@fl-counties.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 20, 2013 10:33 AM  
**Subject:** County Response(s) to Federal Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Draft Initial Comprehensive Plan

Gulf Consortium Directors and Alternates:

The Federal Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council released its Draft Initial Comprehensive Plan May 23, 2013.

<http://www.restorethegulf.gov/sites/default/files/Gulf%20Restoration%20Council%20Draft%20Initial%20Comprehensive%20Plan%205.23.15.pdf>

The comment period ended June 24, 2013. Because the Consortium is considering a collective response and our next public meeting was not until June 28, 2013, Chairman Robinson directed staff to request an extension through July 12 that was granted by the US Department of Commerce.

The Draft Initial Comprehensive Plan contains:

- Five overarching Restoration Goals
- Describes how the council will solicit, evaluate, and fund projects/programs
- Describes the process for approval of State Expenditure Plans
- Contains a Preliminary List of “authorized but not commenced” projects
- Identifies the Council’s Next Steps

The Council at each of the listening stops in all 5 Gulf Coast States has requested specific feedback on criteria and objectives:

- Should the Council further define the Priority Criteria?
- Should the Council develop additional criteria for consideration now or in the future?
- Should the Council consider other Objectives at this juncture? If not, at what point? If so, what should they be?
- Should the Council eliminate any Objectives?
- How should the Council prioritize its restoration Objectives?

So that we can discuss a collective Consortium response to the Draft Initial Plan at our June 28 meeting and begin assembling comments for a Gulf Consortium submission, we ask that you send your individual County response(s) to the Draft Initial Plan, if any, to Doug Darling at [ddarling@fl-counties.com](mailto:ddarling@fl-counties.com). We will be compiling summary comments for the agenda item discussion on June 28.

Apologize for the late request, but if you could please send your comments by Friday, June 21, it would be appreciated.

Regards,  
Doug